

Duties for the control and management of roads and bridges.

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of the said board of road commissioners to take control and management of the public roads and bridges already established in said county, and said commissioners are hereby vested with all the rights and powers of such control and management as are now vested in and exercised by the board of county commissioners of Columbus County as pertains to the repair and maintenance of said highways in said county. The board of county commissioners of Columbus County shall turn over to the board of road commissioners herein created all the road making and road repairing machines, tools or material at present on hand; and the board of road commissioners is hereby authorized to make complete and exclusive use of the convicts of Columbus County, to work them as it sees fit, to discontinue working them at will, and to hire them out in its discretion. The board of road commissioners of Columbus County is hereby authorized and empowered to make such contract or contracts for the maintenance, repair, and improvement of the public roads of Columbus County and to employ such superintendents and overseers as it shall deem necessary and desirable in order to carry out the provisions of this act.

Authorized to make use of county convicts.

May employ superintendents and overseers.

Must levy special tax of 33 1-3 cents on \$100 and \$1 on poll.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners of Columbus County to levy annually a special tax of thirty-three and a third cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of real and personal property of such county and one dollar on each taxable poll in said county at the same time that the county and State levy is made. Upon written petition signed by fifty per cent of the qualified voters of Columbus County requesting that the aforementioned special tax be increased to a specified amount not greater than fifty cents on the one hundred valuation of property and one dollar and fifty cents on each poll, it shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners to increase the aforementioned special tax to the amount stated in the petition:

Upon petition may increase special tax.

Limitation of increase.

Proviso: Constitutional equation between property and poll to be observed.

Proviso: Special tax must never exceed 50 cents on \$100 and \$1.50 on poll. If levy produces surplus, tax rate to be reduced.

Provided, that the constitutional equation between the property and the poll tax shall be observed in the case of any special tax levied hereunder; and *Provided further*, that the special tax levied in this section shall never exceed fifty cents on the hundred dollars valuation of property and one dollar and fifty cents on each poll. If at any time after the levy of one thousand nine hundred and nineteen the board of road commissioners shall find that the special taxes levied under the provisions of this act produce a sum greater than may be necessary for the building, repairing, and maintaining of the public roads in Columbus County, the said board of road commissioners shall certify this fact to the board of county commissioners of Columbus County and shall further certify the amount to which the said special tax may, in its judgment, be properly reduced; whereupon the board of county commissioners shall reduce the special tax to the